

Ottawa, Week by Week

(By DEAN WILSON)

Re-Assignment To Farm Work

Since there has been a shortage of labor on farms, it has become known in the capital that farmers who have been engaged in war industries or similar undertakings during the non-active farming season on temporary permits, are subject to the effects of a notification which the managers of employment and selective service offices across Canada have received, with this being that such persons presently in war industries or similar undertakings and of these there are farm work when the season opens, which time differs in various parts of this country.

Chees Are Denied

After an investigation had been made by the proper authorities, regarding charges that to some extent cigarettes had to Canada, it was found that the charges were untrue or that these were not reaching their destination, the result of this enquiry was that these cigarettes were found to be in the country. It was also reported that over 2,000,000 parcels of cigarettes have been sent overseas since the outbreak of these charges, with only 84 complaints, with 78 of these having been adjusted satisfactorily.

The Real Situation

Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, has thrown new light on the feed grain situation, pointing out that there is some difficulty to get feed grain moved from the West to the East, so that an opinion has prevailed that there may be a shortage somewhere. In reality, there has been a vast quantity of feed grain in this country, but there has been a difficulty to obtain it, with which to move it to areas where it has been required. Moreover, the opinion that there has been allowed to go to the United States rather than to Eastern Canada, has no foundation, and feeders in the United States have had as much trouble in shipping grain as farmers in Eastern Canada, with the real reason being cars on both sides of the boundary. In conclusion, Hon. James Gardiner has issued a warning that farmers should get as much feed grain as possible next summer while it can be shipped by water, emphasizing that there was plenty of feed grain in the West, though to get it East was another matter.

Cost Is An Important Factor

While it is admitted in Ottawa that there are raw materials or deposits for aluminum in this country itself, just as one-sixth of the earth's surface contains aluminum, if Canada wishes to maintain this industry at anything like its present scale or size, it is much more practical to import the cheaper, and so richest forms in which aluminum is found, with South and Central America having much rich products. As to other words, it is a question of costs, and Canada must produce it at the lowest possible price in order to sell its products in world markets at world prices and to maintain its position, which means that its products must be obtained in the lowest cost market. Of course, with a very large capital expenditure, the aluminum element can be obtained in Canada, but the angle of costs would enter as a deterrent factor. This is the background of this grain.

Personal Experiences

Though the Hon. R. B. Hanson has retired as leader of the official opposition in the House of Commons, yet he has been quite active in the present session. Likewise, though the Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Labor Minister, has had rather a difficult time, yet he has managed to retain a good sense of humor, disclosing this fact in revealing a little sidelight of his own personal experience in the last World War.

On one occasion, these two prominent figures were the main characters in a peculiar episode in Parliament. Hon. R. B. Hanson asked if the Labor Minister was aware that there was a continuing recurrence of call-up of men who had been conscripted voluntarily, admitting that it was a matter of administration and that the Minister himself should be held in any way responsible. But he pointed out that his question may serve as an interrogatory to call attention to the situation. "None of us regrets more than I do that this occurs," said Hon. Humphrey Mitchell. "I can say that from my experience in the last war was reported blown up on a ship. Perhaps some people wished it had been!" Then he explained: "My honorable friend can rest assured that it is purely a question of mechanics and organization, and every step is taken to make sure that no one gets into these things will not occur in the future. It is not always the fault of the government."

More Than A Headache

More than a headache in Ottawa for a long time that the government's policy which led to the restriction of liquor in practically all provinces, was extremely unpopular in many circles, particularly when it involved beer. Consequently, as it might be expected, this issue has been raised in Parliament, where a member has urged the government to cancel the part of the order-in-council which has affected the consumption of beer, because if Canada adopted such prohibition, this would cause much harm to public morale. "These prohibitions want to head out for total prohibition, with its multiple troubles," said the member. "In any event, they won't the first round and today we find all Canada hurtling down the hill toward total prohibition where they lay twenty-five years ago, and from which she has never recovered fully."

Moreover, he claimed that many rejections in the armed forces were due to inherited troubles of the prohibition days. "For years thousands of our people were forced to drink vanilla extract, moonshine, uppers, red-eye and palm revivers," he stated. "I am surprised that the percentage of rejections is not higher."

Share of War Contracts

In answer to allegations that New Brunswick was not getting its proper share of war contracts, Hon. E. E. Michaud, Minister of Transport and representative of that Province, in the King Cabinet, has produced in the House of Commons the names of no less than 34 firms in New Brunswick which have obtained war contracts from the Department of Munitions and Supply, adding at the same time the names of the military camps, air bases, and naval quarters in the said Province. Therefore, he argued, that these allegations were wrong and unfounded.

Tunnel To Mainland

A tunnel from Prince Edward Island to Canada's mainland should be built, it is the right of the island in war order that this Province would not be so isolated. This was proposed by a member of Parliament, and it gained considerable attention among the other legislators as well as gossip in the lobbies.

DELIA'S QUOTA

—FOR—

The Fourth Victory Loan
\$53,000.00

Amount Subscribed

—BY—

Tuesday, May 11th
\$46,350.00

Eradication of Weeds

Lethbridge Experimental Station
Weeds Section

Chemical Treatment of the Perennial Forbweed

The masses of the perennial forbweed such as hairy cross field bindweed, leafy spurge, and London tansy, in farm lands in Southern Alberta is increasing from year to year. To combat this menace is the duty of every owner of farm land. If some one does not exterminate the infestation will reach almost unmanageable proportions in a relatively short time.

Continuous cultivation will eradicate the above mentioned perennial weeds in three or four years, but this method is impractical for small outcrops scattered throughout the field. The best method of eradicating small weed patches is to use some type of chemical. Sodium chlorate or "Al-sol" will eradicate perennial weeds of chemical which is applied at the right time.

The results of small plot tests conducted during the past few years indicate that the best time to apply chlorate is in the fall of the year. In the following summer, as a general recommendation, the original treatment should be at a rate of four or five pounds per acre of sodium chlorate or "Al-sol" in the form of a granular retreatment at three to four pounds per square rod. Some weeds may require more chemical than others for complete eradication, depending on such factors as rainfall, soil texture, and the amount of organic material present. Best results are obtained when the sodium chlorate or "Al-sol" is applied to the soil after the weed growth has been cut and removed from the patch.

Carbon bisulphide shows promise of being a good chemical for killing the most deep rooted perennial weeds. However, the treatment usually leaves short pieces of living roots in the surface three to four inches of soil which will re-establish themselves if they are not killed by cultivation. Carbon bisulphide is injected into the soil at a depth of five or six inches for which purpose a special "gun" is used.

At the present time carbon bisulphide is difficult to procure and also quite costly, and for this reason it is difficult to purchase the weed "gun" which is manufactured in the United States.

There are other chemical weed killers which may be more available than those mentioned above, but they are still in small patches. Regarding the time and money expended in killing the small patches, it is time and money well spent.

Beware of Sawfly

The sawfly situation for this year looks bad, says Dr. O. W. Fennel, federal government entomologist at Lethbridge. He advises farmers to trap saw flies as a preventive against the ravages of the sawfly.

In planting trap crops, a large strip about a rod wide is left between the trap and the main crop of wheat. The trap of wheat is sown in the rod wide. The bare strip must be kept black by cultivation during the weeks when sawflies are flying.

About the second week in July the trap strips are cut and the sawfly larvae are destroyed.

Canadian farmers are asked to increase fish planting by one million acres in 1943. The government is offering a bounty of \$100,000 for the year. One who has more than 100 acres of water can win a prize of \$100,000 from Argentina, where there is a large exportation of fish.

THE WORLD OF WHEAT

By R. H. McLENNAN
Director, Research Dept., Steele Grain Co., Ltd.

Treating Seed Grain

Farmers, I suggest should be very careful this year in the treatment of certain seed grain, particularly feed and oats. From all that one can find out, what has been done to germinating seed this year, and to have strong shells. It might, therefore, be quite proper, if desired to treat wheat and barley this year with formaldehyde, but if this is done the farmer must be absolutely certain that the solution is no stronger than recommended by the manufacturer as stated in the directions on the package, for a very little extra strength in the solution will certainly lower germination.

Flax and oats, however, I suggest should be treated this year only with material dust—Ceresen or Lysosan—because some of these crops were touched only, only by the weather (weakened vitality). These mercurial dusts do not harm germination; on the contrary, they actually improve germination. But, however, the proper amount for the various grains, as marked by the manufacturer on the package, only should be used.

If we mean wheat and oats improved 10 per cent in germination by the use of mercurial dust. Mercurial dusts have the advantage that the grain can be treated and stored a year or so before sowing without any harm to the seed.

Scarle Precipitation Report

No. 1

(Compiled from the records of 602 Government and Scarle Data Gauges)

Precipite crops are now being needed, and the yield per acre next fall will depend mainly upon the total amount of moisture available in the soil to the plant.

Crops that are now being needed on stubble land will have available to them the precipitation which occurred last fall during the months of August, September and October, and in addition the rains which will fall during this growing season from April 1st to about August 1st.

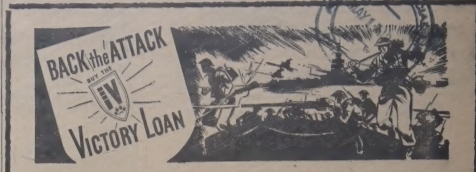
Crops that are now being needed on summer-fallow land will have all the moisture available on stubble land from the same period of time as was stored during the summer-fallow period of 1942, plus that received during the fall of 1941, and the rains which fall between May 1st and April 1st, while helped in filling up sloughs and making water available for human needs and for livestock, has not been found, as a rule, to be of much value as far as producing crops is concerned.

The season starts with reserves of moisture in both stubble and summer-fallow fields that are somewhat better than normal, so that a good moisture foundation is held. The rains which have occurred, so far, however, during this growing season, from April 1st to May 1st inclusive, are far below the average, being in fact only 32 per cent of the long-time average or normal for Alberta, 20 per cent for Saskatchewan, and 14 per cent for Manitoba, and 20 per cent only for the three provinces combined.

When however the rainfall for the month of April, most as it has been, is added to the enormous moisture reserves, then the total moisture condition at this date can still be approximately normal.

The yield per acre to be harvested this coming fall will therefore be increased by the amount of rain in May, June and July. If these rains are better than normal, the yield per acre will probably be better than normal. If the yield per acre will probably also be less than normal.

Save by Saving—Buy War Savings Bonds Regularly—Now!



How About YOU!

Over 170 men and women of the Delia District are now doing their share in the armed forces.

Another 170 civilians of the district have bought bonds of this Fourth Victory Loan

Are YOU Doing Your Share?

If you have not already bought a Bond call at Victory Loan Headquarters and make your application before the end of the present week. Delay no longer!

Delia Unit National War Committee

THE STORY BEHIND MEAT RATIONING

Food is a weapon of war, and we must share our supplies with those who are fighting to keep the war from our shores. After all special wartime demands are taken care of, only one half of the meat produced in Canada will be available for ordinary domestic consumption at home.

Meat supplies for our Armed Forces must be maintained at all costs.

Consent meat is required in large quantities by the Red Cross to send to our boys who are prisoners of war.

Great Britain has to depend more and more on Canada for supplies to maintain even in present low ration rate of 28 cents worth of meat per person, per week.

Pieces like Newfoundland and the West Indies, which previously secured their meat from other sources—must now depend to a great extent on Canada.

Since the war started the consumption of meat by civilians has increased in Canada. Great defense projects such as the Alcan Highway and the Shipyard Power Development must have created new and large demands for meat in areas where practically no demand existed before.

RATIONING IS INTELLIGENT FORESIGHT — INTELLIGENT PLANNING

Coupon rationing is the only way of ensuring equal sharing of the meat available for civilian consumption in Canada. Those with lots of money will not get more than their share—and those with less money will be assured of getting their fair share.

Rationing will help prevent local meat shortages such as occurred last year from becoming widespread and continuous throughout the whole Dominion. The incentive for panic-buying which empties butcher shops early in the day, will be eliminated.

THE MEAT RATION WILL BEAMPLE FOR HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Fortunately, our meat production in Canada has increased. So, although only half our production will be available for civilian use, it will mean a reduction of only about 15% to 20% in the average household consumption. The proposed value of 2 lbs. (concent weight) per person, per week, has been approved by the country's leading food and nutrition authorities, as ample for the health and nutrition standards of civvies—regardless of age or occupation.

DATES AND OTHER DETAILS REGARDING MEAT RATIONING—LOOK TO BECOME EFFECTIVE IN CANADA—WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER

THE WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD

